

COPY

Attorney Docket No.: 15508-002500

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **ARTICULATING SUTURING DEVICE AND METHOD** the specification of which is attached hereto or X was filed on March 4, 1999 as Application No. 09/262,402 and was amended on (if applicable).

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56. I claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Country	Application No.	Date of Filing	Priority Claimed Under 35 USC 119

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application No.	Filing Date




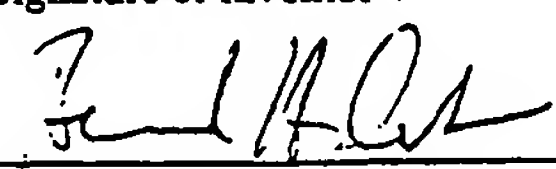
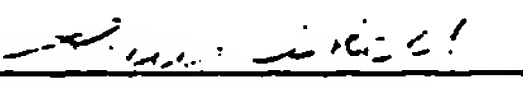
I claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application No.	Date of Filing	Status

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Full Name of Inventor 1:	Last Name: MODESITT	First Name: D.	Middle Name or Initial: BRUCE
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I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Signature of Inventor 1  D. BRUCE MODESITT Date 4/28/99	Signature of Inventor 2  MICHAEL ZUNG Date 4/28/99	Signature of Inventor 3  MICHAEL BARRETT Date 4/28/99
Signature of Inventor 4  BERNARD H. ANDREAS Date 4/28/99		Signature of Inventor 5  LEWIS ISBELL Date 4/28/99

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: D. B. Modesitt, et al.

Serial No.: 09/651,344

Title: ARTICULATING SUTURING
DEVICE AND METHOD

Atty Docket No.: 6771.US.D1

Filing Date: August 29, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3731

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via facsimile to (703) 305-1013 on the Date Indicated:

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231, on:

Date of Transmission: May 5, 2003

 5/30/03
Matthew Mader Date

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**POWER OF ATTORNEY BY ASSIGNEE OF ENTIRE INTEREST
(REVOCATION OF PRIOR POWERS)**

Dear Sir:

REVOCATION OF PRIOR POWERS OF ATTORNEY

As assignee of the entire interest of the above identified patent, as recorded on Reel 012319, Frame 0782, we hereby revoke all powers of attorney previously given.

NEW POWER OF ATTORNEY

The following practitioners are hereby appointed to prosecute and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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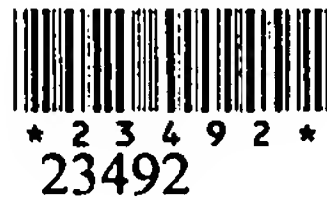
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Respectfully submitted,
Abbott Laboratories

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'S. Weinstock', written over a horizontal line.

Steven F. Weinstock
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Assistant Secretary, Vice President, Chief
Patent and Trademark Counsel